IMPACT OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS CHEROKEE

County, 2002



In the year 2002, the leading causes of death among South Carolinians were heart disease, cancer, stroke, accidents, chronic lower respiratory disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, pneumonia and influenza, nephritis, nephritic syndrome, nephrosis and septicemia. This report focuses on the chronic conditions of the population of Cherokee county, and is compared to the overall chronic conditions of the population of South Carolina as a whole.

The distribution of Cherokee county's population is similar to the state population. The majority (39%) of the population in Cherokee county are between the ages of 18-44. There are more females (52%) than males (48%). Cherokee county has a lower minority population (22%) than the state (32%). When adults in Cherokee county were asked about their general health status, 69% reported having excellent, very good, or good health in 2002 (SC was 83%).

	CHEROKEE COUNTY	STATE
Population size	53,524	4,107,183
Age distribution (%)		
<18	25	24
18-44	39	40
45-64	24	24
65-84	11	11
85+	2	1
Race (%)		
White	78	68
Black & Other	22	32
Sex (%)		
Male	49	49
Female	52	51

In spite of the overall reports of good health given by the citizens of the Palmetto State, chronic conditions are still making an impact on the health of many South Carolinians. Through primary and secondary prevention we hope to reduce the risk factors that contribute to the major chronic diseases and leading causes of death among South Carolinians.

The chart below contains the risk factors that contribute to an increased risk of developing a chronic condition. These risk factors are related to the major causes of morbidity and mortality among South Carolinians. Some common behavioral risk factors that contribute to the leading causes of death are smoking, sedentary lifestyle, obesity, and high cholesterol. The prevalence of these risk factors from the 2002 South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey are listed in the table below for Cherokee County.

RISK FACTOR	COUNTY (%)	STATE (%)
Current smoking	24	27
Sedentary lifestyle	41	42
Overweight	60	60

High Cholesterol 6 8

Some preventive measures such as immunization were included in the 2002 SC BRFSS. For persons age 65 and older in South Carolina:

- 30.6% have not received the flu shot in the past 12 months
- 35.1% have never had the pneumonia vaccination

Hospital/ED data in the following tables include ONLY those cases treated in SC hospitals. Cases treated in hospitals outside of SC are NOT included.

HYPERTENSION		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	27.3					28.4		
Number of hospitalizations	52	25	27	22	30	5,173		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	96	257	60	92	100	125		
Median age of hospitalized patients	65	53	70	58	68	63		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	959,300	399,300	560,000	564,400	394,900	79,350,400		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	5	6	8	4	5		
Number of ED visits	135	73	62	53	82	7,306		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	248	707	137	198	288	175		
Median age of ED patients	48	48	48	48	48	53		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	130,500	70,300	60,200	61,600	68,900	5,902,800		
Number of deaths*	7	2	5	3	4	366		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	13	21	11	12	12	9		

HEART DISEASE		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	4.51					5.13		
Number of hospitalizations	338	44	294	209	129	30,831		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	609	513	627	864	416	734		
Median age of hospitalized patients	68	68	73	68	78	68		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	10,629,800	1,001,800	9,628,000	6,950,100	3,679,700	969,122,700		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	4	5	5	5	5		
Number of ED visits	47	5	42	35	12	2,754		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	83	69	87	137	37	66		
Median age of ED patients	68	68	70	65	80	63		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	273,700	35,300	238,400	198,400	75,300	10,617,900		
Number of deaths*	161	21	140	90	71	9,723		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	299	264	306	439	213	246		

STROKE		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Prevalence (%)	1.27					2.38	
Number of hospitalizations	273	61	212	103	170	14,317	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	496	730	454	453	539	351	
Median age of hospitalized patients	78	70	78	73	78	73	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	5,362,400	1,080,800	4,281,600	2,202,400	3,160,000	279,819,700	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	6	5	6	6	6	6	
Number of ED visits	53	9	44	18	35	2,732	
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	95	113	93	88	111	67	
Median age of ED patients	73	58	73	68	78	73	
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	143,500	26,700	116,800	47,900	95,600	6,322,600	
Number of deaths*	44	5	39	15	29	2,816	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	83	69	85	85	86	73	

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE		County						
PULMONARY DISEASE	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Number of hospitalizations	362	62	300	156	206	14,524		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	665	641	658	653	689	351		
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	48	63	58	58	58		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	5,642,400	836,200	4,806,200	2,568,100	3,074,300	198,700,700		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	4	3	5	4	5	5		
Number of ED visits	234	81	153	101	133	37,517		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	433	810	347	428	470	914		
Median age of ED patients	38	23	48	40	38	33		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	256,900	82,600	174,300	112,100	144,800	30,607,600		
Number of deaths*	34	2	32	14	20	1,891		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	64	27	71	65	64	48		

DIABETES		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	5.91					8.33		
Number of hospitalizations	111	48	63	60	51	8,652		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	201	468	143	242	174	207		
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	53	68	58	53	53		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	1,516,100	631,600	884,500	884,200	631,900	127,167,500		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	5	5	5	4	6		
Number of ED visits	105	53	52	47	58	9,316		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	197	546	121	189	206	224		
Median age of ED patients	63	58	68	63	58	53		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	117,900	64,400	53,500	58,600	59,300	8,261,100		
Number of deaths*	23	6	17	10	7	1,114		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	43	81	37	60	26	28		

ALL CANCERS		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations	242	47	195	105	137	24,644	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	443	509	430	438	472	591	
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	58	63	63	53	58	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	6,700,800	1,223,700	5,477,100	3,619,400	3,081,400	605,119,300	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	6	5	6	8	5	6	
Number of deaths*	119	23	96	68	51	8,320	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	216	280	206	299	161	203	

COLORECTAL CANCER		State				
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total
Number of hospitalizations	20	5	15	10	10	2,113
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	36	65	32	41	29	51
Median age of hospitalized patients	70	68	73	70	70	68
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	643,100	140,700	502,400	371,100	272,000	80,248,200
Average length of hospital stay (days)	7	6	8	8	7	10
Number of deaths*	13	3	10	7	6	807
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	24	38	22	37	19	20

BREAST CANCER		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations						1,465	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	13	9	13		. 24	35	
Median age of hospitalized patients	53	43	55		. 53	63	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	81,000	17,600	63,400		81,000	21,213,600	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	1	1	1		. 1	3	
Number of deaths*	13	1	12	-	. 13	630	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	24	10	27		42	15	

CERVICAL CANCER		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Number of hospitalizations						222		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	6		8		12	5		
Median age of hospitalized patients	38		38		38	48		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	42,200	•	42,200		42,200	3,668,300		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	3		3		1	4		
Number of deaths*	_	1	-	1	2	26		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	-	2	-	3	-	3		

LUNG CANCER		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations	31	3	28	16	15	2,154	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	56	33	62	66	53	51	
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	58	58	60	53	68	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	1,026,900	94,800	932,100	628,200	398,700	70,474,400	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	7	9	7	8	6	9	
Number of deaths*	42	7	35	30	12	2,481	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	75	86	74	125	38	60	

PROSTATE CANCER	County					State
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total
Number of hospitalizations					•	1,353
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	16	19	15	39		32
Median age of hospitalized patients	63	58	68	63		68
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	141,400	30,100	111,300	141,400	•	24,726,200
Average length of hospital stay (days)	3	3	3	3		4
Number of deaths*	4	1	3	4	-	478
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	8	14	7	23	-	12

^{*}Mortality data were provided by Division of Biostatistics, Office of Public Health Statistics and Information Systems, DHEC using ICD-10 codes.

For more information about

Chronic diseases in South Carolina contact:

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